

THE WIDE AWAKE CIRCLE

BOYS AND GIRLS DEPARTMENT

Size of Pictures Drawn For The Bulletin

They must be either 2 1/2-3 1/2 wide for single column, and 4 1/2-5 1/2 for double column. The lines must come within these measurements.

Rules for Young Writers.

1. Write plainly on one side of the paper only, and number the pages.
2. Use pen and ink, not pencil.
3. Short and pointed articles will be given preference. Do not use over 250 words.
4. Original stories or letters only will be used.
5. Write your name, age and address plainly at the bottom of the story.
6. Address all communications to Uncle Jed, Bulletin Office.

"Whatever you are—Be that! Whatever you say—Be true! Straightforwardly act. Be honest—in fact. Be nobody else but you."

POETRY.

DICKIE.

Dickie was a lazy pony. Loads to him were never good. And one day we filled the wagon. More than Dickie thought we should.

Five of us besides the doggie (Doggie's name was Pit-a-pat). Dickie stuck his ears straight up. Saying, "Just please feel of that!"

"Lisbeth sat in front with Ida. Dot and I sat behind her. With Pit-a-pat beside her. Crowded down between us four.

Pit-a-pat felt awful crowded. And he tried his best to fuss. Growled and snarled around a minute. Just to show his thoughts of us.

Dickie pulled us just a little. Then began with awful vim. Kicking at the legs of Lisbeth. Till he'd knocked off lots of skin.

Then he ran away, did Dickie. And we couldn't get him, though. Two of us with all our power. Pulled upon the reins just so.

Loyle fell out upon the roadside. And we left her sprawling there. While we snickered and faster. Hoots a-flying everywhere.

Such the wagon turned and jolted. Spilling us all out at once. Then—old Dickie's head was up. Stopped, just like a perfect dance.

Pit-a-pat was underneath us. In the middle of the lot. But he got himself out somehow. Much disgusted, but not hurt.

Then he ran around to Dickie. And he barked and he fought. Bit at Dickie's legs—that doggie. Just because he thought he ought.

Dickie cooked his eyes a little. For old Pit-a-pat, said he. "I don't care for your small bitings. Any more than for a flea."

"MY SHIP."

I think of my bed as a big, big ship. To carry me over the sea. Sometimes we go off on a stormy trip. My Gollywog and me.

I am the captain, and Golly is crew. We do have lovely sails. And in the sea are great big fish. Saw-fish, and sharks, and whales.

Some of them frighten us very much. But Golly and I are brave. And we fight them with swords and guns and things. Our beautiful ship to save.

But now, I think, we must say good-by. For four eyes are beginning to peep. And we're off in our ship to the "Land of Nod."

With a great big cargo of sleep. —Kathleen M. Grant in the York-shire Post.

UNCLE JED'S TALK TO WIDE-AWAKES.

People go to the seashore all their lives and do not seem interested in the motion, greatness or sounds of the sea.

The action of the sun and moon upon the water give it its action, and every day the wave of the moon and the wave of the sun meet in a tidal wave at a given hour in the ocean in the latitude of Madagascar.

And how great is the sea do you suppose? Your school books tell you that two-thirds of the globe is covered with water, and we know there are places where it is five miles deep; but this does not give us as clear an idea of its vastness as does the statement, that if the sun should take up out of the ocean and seas of the world all the water in them, it would take all the rivers now running into them eight hundred years to replace the water.

The Japanese, who are a sea-surrounded and sea-faring people, have an old saying that "the sea has a soul and ears;" and the poets tell us of its roar and its whisperings; and the sea-faring people tell us "No mortal ever saw two waves break upon the shore exactly alike."

And not one thinks what the ice and the winds and the tides had to do with the forming of the beach upon which they camp and sing and bathe in the summer time, or when gathering the sea-weeds from the water, realize that while most of them may be from nearby coves and shores, some of them are from the sea-gardens of far-away Bermuda shoals, or the seas of Sargasso, the weed covered sea, in which weeds and refuse drift forever, some of which may have been there since the days of Columbus, a tideless, windless waste of waters, as dangerous to man as the great deserts of earth.

There are lots of things to be thought of by the sea-side besides the cooling breezes and the little joys they afford.

WIN A THRIFT STAMP

Winning Wide-Awake Letters are rewarded with a Thrift Stamp, with an extra Stamp for every fourth book won.

State your preference, stamp or book.

THE WINNERS OF PRIZES.

- 1—Olive Guile of Norwich—Thrift stamp.
- 2—Raymond Ayer of Norwich—Thrift stamp.
- 3—Lydia Dugas of Versailles—Red Cross Girls in British Trenches.
- 4—Ethel Light of Willimantic—Red Cross Girls With Russian Army.
- 5—Inez Guile of Norwich—Thrift stamp.
- 6—Sophie Gaska of Jewett City—Dorothy on a Ranch.
- 7—Bertha Light of Versailles—Pen's Venture.
- 8—Rosalie A. Anderson of Norwich—Thrift stamp.

Winners of prizes living in the city may call at The Bulletin business office for them at any hour after 10 a. m. on Thursday.

LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Geraldine Garsau of Southbridge, Mass.: Although I am late in thanking you for the prize book you sent me entitled The Frontier Boys in Colorado, I have read it through and found it very interesting. Thank you again.

Alice Runney of South Coventry: I thank you very much for the Thrift stamp which you sent me for my story.

Hans Stienmeyer of Dagville: I thank you very much for my Thrift stamp. I had one week's vacation and I earned one dollar and now I have 13. I hope I will win another.

Sarah Hyman of Norwich: I thank you very much for the prize book entitled Making the Last Stand for Old Glory, which I won some time ago. I have read it through and have found it quite interesting.

STORIES WRITTEN BY WIDE-AWAKES.

The Acorn and the Pumpkin.

A countryman who was lying at the foot of an oak considered a pumpkin plant in his neighbor's garden.

At this look, our countryman cried: "How is it that such big fruit is supported by such a little thin stem, while the little acorns are suspended on this superb oak?"

"If all the things of this world would have been created by me, these big, nice pumpkins would have been put in the oak tree."

Had he not just said these words, when an acorn fell from the tree, the face of the man was struck by it so justly that the blood came down from his nose. "Oh, yes," said the man, "I just received a good whack for my foolishness!"

The pumpkin had it been attached at the place of the acorn, would have smashed my nose for the man. ROSE DUQUETTE, Age 10. Danielson.

Shag's Side of the Case.

Alice's sister came into the room where the dog was barking.

"Shag is getting to be such a mischief. Look at the books on the shelf of the bookcase! We will have to get rid of him! Don't cry, Alice. How can we have a dog around the house that does such damage? Look at the ink he has upset on the tablespread!"

She loved Shag; but what should she do? He did spoil things, and he would have to go.

"I told you it wasn't Shag that bothered you," said Bridget the next morning. "Just come here and see."

The little family followed the maid to the place where she thought they saw Shag jumping around on the floor lay three dead mice—two of which were streaked with ink!

"Then that is what he wanted," said Alice, "and you won't get rid of him, after all!"

"No, indeed!" said Alice's sister, stooping down and patting him. RUTH ERICKSON. Norwich.

A Narrow Escape.

"Fifteen cents a quart!" said Fanny. "Yes, he said he would give us fifteen cents a quart."

She spoke to her friend Bessie as they sat down where they had been picking blueberries.

"That is more than mamma pays the woman who brings them to our house," said Bessie.

"Yes, but we are going to give the money to Blind Joe, so we take a big price."

"Just then Bessie's little sister came along. She carried a pail, too."

"Where are you going?" "I'm going picking berries all by myself!" and she walked off without a word.

"Why don't you stay with us?" called Fanny. Dora looked over her shoulder and called back.

"Fanny turned and said: 'I believe the darling is crying? Oh, call her back!'"

But she had turned the road and was out of sight.

Suddenly they heard a scream. It was Dora! She is in the cranberry bog and will be drowned! Just then a man came up and brought her to dry land.

"You're too kind for anything," said Bessie and Fanny, and hugged and kissed Dora with all their might. "You never will get picking berries alone again, never as long as I live!"

"Well, I—I didn't want to," sobbed Dora. ESTELLA OLSSON, Age 13. Norwich.

Daniel Webster's First Case.

Daniel Webster's father was a poor farmer. Besides Daniel, he had an older son named Ezekiel. One day Ezekiel set a trap to catch a woodchuck that for a long time had been stealing his breakfasts from the garden of the Websters.

At last the woodchuck was caught. "Now," said Ezekiel, "you've done harm enough to die, Mr. Woodchuck, and die you shall!"



A Little Pig-Club Girl, by Margaret Noworthy. This little pig went to market, and this little girl bought Thrift Stamps.

You may both speak. I will be judge." Ezekiel began, about the harm the woodchuck had done. He told how much trouble it was to catch him. He asked if the woodchuck would not take to his bad habit again if they let him go. He ended with these words: "The woodchuck must die, and, to pay for what he had stolen, let us sell his skin."

Daniel was very much afraid that his brother had won the case, but, seeing the poor prisoner tremble, he felt pity for it, so he took courage and said: "The woodchuck has a right to life, to food and to freedom. God made him to live in the bright sunshine, in the free fields and woods. He is not like the cruel fox, for he kills no one. Has he taken anything but the corn to keep alive? And is not grain as sweet to him as the food on mother's table? You can't say he has broken the laws as men often do; he has only done what it is his nature to do. Look at this poor, dumb, trembling creature and answer me this: Do you take away a life which you never can give back?"

Daniel paused. There were tears in his father's eyes. Tears that rolled down his sunburned cheeks. The plea for mercy had touched his father's heart, and forgetting that he was "judge," he started up and cried in a loud voice: "Zekie, you let that woodchuck go!"

LYDIA DUGAS, Age 10. Versailles.

Galileo.

Galileo was an Italian. He invented the telescope, microscope and the thermometer. When 15 years old he saw lamps suspended on long cords and observed that they swung with different beats when the wind blew. Experiments in his father's garden.

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her many precious government secrets. They let her see the lists of secret Confederate sympathizers and agents in various cities. They confided to her their carefully hidden processes for smuggling food and arms and despatches and medical supplies into the southern army forts and forces and she planned movements of their armies. All this Pauline transmitted faithfully to the Union government and rendered invaluable service to our country by her tidings.

At last she penetrated to General Bragg's Confederate headquarters at Shelbyville. There in some way she aroused suspicion. Perhaps by means of some spy in the Union camp, she may have betrayed her.

In any case Bragg ordered Pauline arrested. She was court-martialed and was sentenced to be hanged as a spy. There was no Abraham Lincoln on hand as in the instance of captured women spies of the Confederacy to permit her death sentence to be commuted, or a prison term. But before sentence could be carried out a Union army captured Shelbyville. The Confederates in their haste to get out of the city did not wait to hang Pauline, but left her imprisoned there. The rescuing Union troops acclaimed her as a heroine. They gave her accommodations of a United States officer.

WILLIAMTIC. Lewis and Clark's Expedition.

When Thomas Jefferson was president people did not know anything about the far west. Nobody lived there but a few cruel, savage Indians.

Thomas Jefferson sent two men through the wild country to find out what kind of people lived there. The names of these men were Lewis and Clark. They were forty-five men in the party. They were to go up the Missouri river and find a route over the Rocky Mountains. They were gone two years and four months. They ate horsemeat and dogmeat, and sometimes they ate bread made from roots.

They went to an Indian village and the Indians fed them. After they were done eating they saw a buffalo head hanging on a post. The Indians put some meat in a bowl and set it in front of the head and said: "Eat that."

They believed if they treated this head politely the other buffaloes would come to their hunting ground and then they would have plenty to eat. KATHLEEN DONNELLY, Age 10. Lisbon.

Little August.

Once there was a little boy who was very lonesome. He always went to the woods to look for flowers. He was very kind, but people did not like him because he was lonely; but there was one who liked him, and that was God. Both his father and mother were dead, but they were in heaven, and they both were watching over him.

One day when he was walking through the woods he saw a little young bird lying on the ground and he picked it up with his tender little hands and took it home.

The bird was very young and it was standing by. He climbed the tree with the little bird in his hand and when he reached the nest the mother bird had just come home to her little ones, and the boy put the other one in.

The mother was so glad to have her young one back that she always was with the little boy, and she was not afraid of him, but always ate out of his hand. He was in the woods most of the time.

The people heard of this and were very much surprised, and they treated him very kindly afterwards.

The people noticed he was out in the woods mostly in the month of August, so they named this kind boy "August."

LOUISE LEBER, Age 11. Plainfield.

Our School.

To begin with, our school is situated on Main street and is of brick construction. It has four classrooms and has three large hallways by which the pupils enter their classes. A fire escape is situated on the back of the school.

On the left side of our school is the boys' play yard, and on the right is the girls'.

On Friday afternoons we snip and sew towels and we cut sun wipes for the Red Cross.

We also have a Junior Red Cross and have our Red Cross flag.

We sing patriotic songs and recite war poems.

I also have a garden and raise many kinds of vegetables.

LEONA BERTHAUME, Age 11. Dayville.

Helping the Red Cross.

Dear Uncle Jed: I will tell you how I spent four of my days. I did have very many fireworks. I had 10 cents worth. I thought I would save my money and get thrift stamps. I already have nine, and I am trying to get more.

My mother told me if I would keep house she would give me 25 cents every week while she goes working in the mill. And besides I get small change from the store, which helps get a stamp. I think it's a job to keep house; anyhow I get a thrift stamp every week. We all have to start in working and it's wartime and we have to help.

I have to take care of my sister and fifty chickens. I have to see that they have water. I think that job is worth 25 cents.

Wide-Awakes had a happy Fourth of July. BERTHA LICHTE, Age 12. Versailles.

A Young American Conversation.

Dear Uncle Jed: I am going to tell you about a conversation between some Thrift Stamp buyers.

One of them said: "How many Thrift Stamps have you, Tommy?" I have seven in my book and Eddie has nine."

"I've only three in my book, but I'm going to get another today, soon's teacher comes."

"Did your mamma give you a quarter for your stamp, Alice?" "Course not! I earned it! I helped mamma and auntie to shell the peas and then I dried the dishes for mamma. That was worth a quarter, and I carried papa's lunch for a week, and he gave me another quarter; and I minded the baby for Mrs. Ross for two afternoons, and she paid me for that, so all the stamps I have in my book are earned stamps. Auntie says that's the nicest kind, and they're the kind I'm always going to have if I can."

"How did you get your money, Tommy?" "I earned it pullin' weeds in the garden and pickin' berries for Mr. Wilson. I got two cents a quart for berries, and it don't take long to pick a quart. I think Thrift Stamps are a fine way to save money, don't you, Tottie?"

"Yes, but the best thing about it is that we are all helping Uncle Sam to win the war while we are saving up our pennies. I used to spend my pennies for candy and soda and things like that; but now I save every one and it don't take long to save enough to buy Thrift Stamp. I bet there'll be a lot of rich boys and girls before long."

People all over the country are doing just what Tottie and Tommy are doing—saving their pennies to buy Thrift stamps or War Savings stamps, and helping to provide money for our soldiers and to make bullets and other necessary munitions to win the war.

Won't we be a happy people when the war is over and we have peace in the world again; and to think that we had a hand in bringing about what everyone wants, more than anything else—Peace on Earth!

Are all the Wide-Awakes helping Uncle Sam in this way? I am buying Thrift stamps. I have two War Savings stamps and I have been knitting for the Red Cross. I hope all the Wide-Awakes have been helping in some way.

OLIVE GUILLE, Age 15. Norwich.

Famous Dog and His Service Flag.

Dear Uncle Jed: Did you ever hear of a dog having a service flag? Perhaps not, but there is such a dog. His name is "Baldy of Nome," and

WIDE-AWAKE STORIES

Temper and John Webb.

By Norman W. Twiddy.

That he was hot-headed, John Webb knew. John was as fiery as the bright red thatch which covered his head. In school, John was as smart as most boys; in his home, he was courteous; in his sports, he was square. Only one bad habit was fixing itself in sixteen-year-old John's being—Temper. Smart, courteous and square, he was—when everything went along smoothly. When it didn't—well—he went off like a hand grenade.

The "Eagles" were playing the "Invincibles" for the baseball championship of the Junior League. The League was an eight-team one and his bunch—the "Eagles"—were but one-half a game behind the "Invincibles" for first place. This would be the final game. Every member of his winning team would receive a medal offered by the leading newspaper of the town.

John Webb played shortstop, 3-3 in the fifth. With the "Eagles" up and John on first, Stender, the boy at the bat hit a hard grounder toward second. John was off like a streak. The "Invincibles" second baseman got the ball and tagged John as he slid for the bag.

"Out," shouted the umpire. Then "Old Man Temper," who had made a slave out of John, whispered to him, "Go on. Kick up a rumpus." He lost control of himself and he went into the air like a dirigible. He flung his cap on the ground and kicked the earth with his spikes. His face began to match the color of his hair.

"You're out a mile," grunted the "Invincibles" second baseman—a smaller boy than John.

John, without thinking of the boy's size or form, play, hit him on the chest. The boy staggered and went down.

The umpire asked John by the arm. "You rowdy," he said. "Any more of that and you go out of the game."

The words cut John. He walked back to the bench, still boiling inside, but trying to fight his anger down. He was ashamed of himself.

With a bout on third, the sixth, an easy grounder was hit to John. He was unstrung. His fit of temper, his striking of the smaller boy and the umpire's rebuke had been tormenting his sense of squareness. First he fumbled, then he booted the ball! The boy scored from third; the batter was safe at first. John felt miserable for more than one reason.

That run proved the winning run in the sixth had lost the game, his teammates said—but he knew the game had been lost long before that. He had been lost in the fifth inning when Temper had beaten him without his even fighting.

The championship lost, no medals for the fellows; and he, John Webb, had struck a smaller boy! John did it.

lot of thinking, as he slowly and sadly changed his uniform for his street clothes without speaking to any of the fellows.

What would this temper, if it was going to lose a baseball game now, do when he was older? John had dreams of going through college and of becoming a successful lawyer. A wise little head had John when he "came down to earth." He figured that if Temper could do so much harm at sixteen, he had better get rid of it before he was a day older.

Outside the locker room, John run into the small second baseman of the "Invincibles." "I'm sorry I hit you," he said. And it took some manhood to say that. "I was out, all right. I'm going to learn to swallow my temper."

He did. John Webb discovered a big truth that self-control is the first law of success.—The Boys World.

Can a Girl Garden?

Let two girls who have made the venture give answer. They live in Vermont and